

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 02717 01 OF 02 251502Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 RSC-01 SCI-06 FEAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01

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P R 251305Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9142

INFO AEC WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 BUCHAREST 2717

DEPT FOR EUR/EE, VAN HEUVEN AND SCI, GANLEY

AEC FOR HILL/FRIEDMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OSCI, TECH, RO

SUBJECT: US/ROMANIAN COOPERATION IN ATOMIC ENERGY

REF: VAN HEUVEN/MARTENS LETTER OF 6/14/74

1. IN LIGHT OF EXPECTED HILL/MITRAN MEETING THIS WEEK AND SLOWNESS OF POUCH SERVICE, THERE FOLLOWS A SUMMARY REPORT ON OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH URSU AND HIS STAFF TO DATE. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT FINISHED OUR PRELIMINARY TALKS HERE ON THE BASIS OF FRIEDMAN LETTER OF APRIL 4, HOPE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WILL BE HELPFUL FOR HILL'S TALK. WOULD APPRECIATE TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY OF THAT TALK.

2. BECAUSE OF URSU'S RECENT ILLNESS, AMBASSADOR'S FIRST MEETING WITH URSU, RODEAN AND MANZATU WAS POSTPONED UNTIL MAY 2. THE OCCASION WAS ALSO USED TO INTRODUCE SCIATT SMITH. AMBASSADOR NOTED DECLINE IN AEC/SCNE EXCHANGES AND

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PAGE 02 BUCAR 02717 01 OF 02 251502Z

PRESENTED AEC VIEWS AS OUTLINED IN FRIEDMAN LETTER OF

APRIL 4. URSU APPEARED TO UNDERSTAND SITUATION COMPLETELY AND TO BE SEEKING COOPERATION ON BASIS OF PRACTICAL REALITIES. HE GENERALIZED ABOUT FUTURE COOPERATION IN LONG-RANGE RESEARCH THROUGH INTERMEDIATE ORGANIZATIONS, THE POSSIBILITY OF AMERICAN SPECIALISTS WORKING IN ROMANIAN RESEARCH INSTITUTES, SHORT-RANGE VISITS TO APPROPRIATE AEC FACILITIES BY QUALIFIED ROMANIAN SPECIALISTS, NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH IN INDUSTRIAL SECTOR, AND NUCLEAR SAFETY PROBLEMS. IT WAS AGREED THAT MANZATU AND RODEAN WOULD DISCUSS CONCRETE PROPOSALS WITH SCIATT BEFORE THE LATTER'S DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON ON MAY 10, BUT THEY WERE UNABLE TO DO SO. SCIATT BRIEFLY SUMMARIEZED THESE FACTS IN CONVERSATION WITH GANLEY, AND MENTIONED INCONCLUSIVE NATURE OF MEETING TO VAN HEUVEN AND HILL, BUT DID NOT STRESS DETAILS. HE DID NOT MAKE WRITTEN REPORT PENDING OUTCOME OF SUCCEEDING DISCUSSIONS.

3. SCIATT MET JUNE 14 WITH SCNE VICE PRESIDENT EMILIAN RODEAN AND DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS VALENTIN IONESCU TO CONTINUE ABOVE DISCUSSION. (MANZATU WAS ABSENT FROM BUCHAREST.) RODEAN OUTLINED FIVE AREAS OF INTEREST TO ROMANIA FOR COOPERATION IN NUCLEAR RESEARCH:

A. NUCLEAR SAFETY ENGINEERING, TO INCLUDE SAFETY PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH REACTOR CORE INTEGRITY, INSTRUMENTATION, AND REACTOR DESIGN FOR SEISMIC REGIONS.

B. NUCLEAR MATERIALS SAFEGUARDS, TO INCLUDE RESEARCH ON TRANSPORTATION OF FUELS, WASTE DISPOSAL, AND ROMANIAN PARTICIPATION IN COMMITTEE WORK OF DRAWING UP PROCEDURES AND CONTROLS.

C. FAST BREEDER REACTORS, TO INCLUDE ROMANIAN PARTICIPATION IN APPROPRIATE RESEARCH WITH THE AEC, PERHAPS THROUGH UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE NATIONAL LABORATORIES.

D. HIGH TEMPERATURE REACTORS, AN ESSENTIALLY INDUSTRIAL DOMAIN THROUGH SUCH FIRMS AS GE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BUCAR 02717 01 OF 02 251502Z

WESTINGHOUSE, GULF ATOMIC.

E. DIRECT ENERGY CONVERSION, A TOPIC OF INTEREST FOR BASIC JOINT-RESEARCH.

4. RODEAN CONCLUDED WITH OBSERVATION THAT PRESENT AEC/SCNE AGREEMENT EXHKRES AT END OF 1974 AND THAT IT WAS NOW TIME TO THINK ABOUT ACTION TO EXTEND IT. HE EXPLAINED ROMANIA

WOULD LIKE TO SIGN MORE "FORMAL" AGREEMENT, MORE ALONG LINES OF CONVENTIONAL MEMORANDA, TO INCLUDE A GENERAL STATEMENT ABOUT EXCHANGE OF SCIENTISTS; EXCHANGE OF PUBLICATIONS, DATA, AND INFORMATION; AND COOPERATION IN RESEARCH. HE HOPED SUCH A MEMORANDUM MIGHT INCLUDE ANNEX DESCRIBING SPECIFIC PROJECTS, OR PROVIDE FOR DIRECT EXCHANGES TO BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN ROMANIAN SCIENTISTS OR ORGANIZATIONS AND INTERESTED LABORATORIES UNDER AEC SUPERVISION OR CONNECTED WITH AEC PROJECTS.

5. COMMENT: NEITHER URSU NOR RODEAN CONVEY IMPRESSION OF PRESSING FOR SPECTACULAR NEW DIMENSIONS TO AEC/SCNE COOPERATION. THEY SEEM TO APPRECIATE FINANCIAL AND PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES AS WELL. RODEAN READILY ACKNOWLEDGED THE IMBALANCE OF US/ROMANIAN RESEARCH FACILITIES AND EXPERIENCE, BUT EXPRESSED CONVICTION AS HAD URSU EARLIER THAT REALISTIC COOPERATION WAS FEASIBLE IN CONTEXT OF MUTUAL ADVANTAGE. ROMANIAN HARD CURRENCY TRAVEL EXPENSES WILL BE EASED BY OPENING OF TAROM LINE TO NY. EMBASSY ENCOUNTERS NO DIFFICULTY WITH GUIDELINES OF FRIEDMAN'S APRIL 4 LETTER.

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 02717 02 OF 02 251509Z

44

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6. MITRAN INVITED SMITH FOR DISCUSSION OF "SOME IDEAS" ON

EVENING OF MAY 24 JUST BEFORE LATTER'S DEPARTURE FROM WASHINGTON. HE AGAIN URGED THAT EXPANDED US/ROMANIAN AGREEMENT IN NUCLEAR FIELD BE CONCLUDED BEFORE THE NPT NEGOTIATION NEXT MAY IN GENEVA. HE STRESSED THE AGREEMENT WOULD BE MORE SIGNIFICANT FOR POLITICAL REASONS THAN FOR ITS CONTENT. (MITRAN HAS RAISED THIS MATTER REPEATEDLY WITH GANLEY AND VAN HEUVEN.) SMITH REPEATED FRIEDMAN GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTED MITRAN MEET WITH AEC REPRESENTATIVES IF HE WANTED TO PURSUE IT FURTHER. EMBASSY HAS NOT BEEN APPROACHED WITH SIMILAR LINE BY ANY ROMANIAN OFFICIAL. WE ARE PUZZLED BY DIFFERENCES IN APPROACH ILLUSTRATED BY MITRAN ON THE ONE HAND AND URSU AND HIS STAFF ON THE OTHER. THE CURRENT TURMOIL HERE OF REORGANIZATIONS OF EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS MAY BE CONTRIBUTNG FACTOR.

7. SINCE RODEAN WAS CALLED AWAY TO A MEETING BEFORE ALL TOPICS HAD BEEN COVERED, SCIATT WILL RESUME CONVERSATION WITH RODEAN AND MANZATU ONCE WE HAVE REPORT ON HILL-MITRAN CONVERSATION. WILL SEEK TO CLARIFY IN PARTICULAR THE FOLLOWING IN LIGHT OF CONSIDERATIONS SET FORTH IN FRIEDMAN LETTER:

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PAGE 02 BUCAR 02717 02 OF 02 251509Z

A. FINANCIAL REALITIES BEHIND ROMANIAN INTEREST IN NEW AGREEMENT,

B. SPECIFICS OF ROMANIAN INTEREST IN FAST BREEDER RESEARCH,

C. NATURE OF ROMANIAN COMMITMENT TO SOVIET REACTOR SYSTEM AND CURRENT STATUS OF APPROACHES TO WESTERN COUNTRIES ON OTHER SYSTEMS,

D. ROMANIAN INTENTIONS IN CONTROLLED THERMONUCLEAR FUSION,

E. WHAT ROMANIANS PREPARED TO OFFER IN RETURN FOR USAEC COOPERATION.

FOLLOWING THAT CONVERSATION WE WILL SUBMIT OUR OWN COMMENTS AND PROPOSALS.

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